## ABSTRACT

The treatment of pathological conditions characterized by an increased IL-1 and/or TNF-a level, such as rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, Wegener's disease, granulomatosis, asthma, pulmonary emphysema, Paget's disease, osteoporosis, bone metastases, and atherosclerosis, by administering an effective amount of the compound diacerein or rhein, as wells as the use of diacerein or rhein in the treatment of certain conditions or disorders associated with the process of formation and development of the various types of blood cells and other formed elements by the hemopoietic tissues such as myeloma and myeloid leukemia.